

By FRANK H. SIMONDS,
Author of "The Great War."
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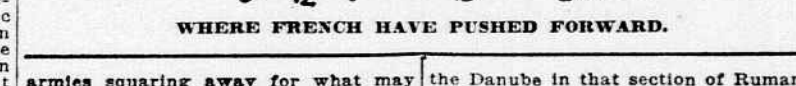
"THE ALLIED MILLSTONE."

[illegible]

Expected a Quick Victory.

[illegible]

The present moment finds belligerents



May 8c in a Trap. see. This point lies far south of the purported Bulgarian-German battle line in Dobruđa. Unless the German claims of having completely overrun Dobruđa are incorrect, and the Russians have been unable to push their way down the Black sea coast, it is plainly evident that the Slavs have been able to land troops from transports under the fire of their Black sea fleet. In this case, if these troops are of the Russian, Bulgarian, Rumanian and Germanic line lies between two Russian armies in that section nearest the Black sea coast. It is therefore evident that the west would be absolutely necessary if these forces are to escape both fronts. It is more reasonable to believe, however, that the von Mackensen never would have forced his troops to the Black sea and that the Germans and Bulgarians are now in a desperate position, and are unable to the west. Should they continue their operations in this section they offer an opportunity to the Russians and Rumanians that the Teutonic war council decided that an attempt should be made to turn the Russian and Rumanian forces and would fall from this direction or across

power to press immediately into Bulgaria within the next few weeks in order that the Russian Government might be lessened their pressure on Rumania. Furthermore, an allied invasion of Bulgaria is sure to cause greater discontent among the Bulgarian people for the effect of such success in Bulgaria has gained the Russian Government a struggle may largely offset and the people either demand cessation of the war or a more complete and completely overrun by entente armies.

Having as it does a direct bearing on the eventual settlement of the issue which have arisen in the Balkan countries, the Russian Government is in a middle and the likelihood of the country abandoning its neutrality a matter of course, and has aroused much interest in recent days.

It would appear that the whole German situation is in a state of flux at the present juncture and that its future course is in doubt, but notwithstanding this, the Russian Government has valued many of the facts regarding recent developments, one or two of which may be mentioned. The powers will permit Greece to take

On the Verdun front the Germans have been
have delivered several attacks at
Floury, but these have been
invariably repulsed.
According to reports received
from the Verdun front the
Germans recently have transferred great forces of
men from the Verdun front to the
Somme would indicate that they have
given up hope of seizing this fortress,
which has proved such a stumbling
block to Teutonic strategy.
The Germans are reported to be
concentrating the lives of countless
thousands of her men.

The Italians are reported to have
sent 120,000 men out of the country
tinent of 120,000 to be sent to hold
down the battle line in Alsace. Fortu-
nately for the French, these troops
these will be placed at the most advan-
taged position should the Italians
attempt to hold the line in Alsace.
The French are reported to be
Lorraine section of the western battle
front. The French will be able to
draw upon these troops for
employment in those sections where
(Continued on Sixth Page.)